was reported that an Andhra Pradesh Marine Scientist has developed a new underwater retrieval device which can be useful in retrieving/lifting things upto 40 kgs. and can be used by submarines;

(b) if so, whether concerned Departments of Government have been advised to made use of this device; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Post-retirement employment restrictions on Defence Officers

2719. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the post-retirement employment restrictions on the senior officers of the defence services;

(b) whether it is a fact that retired officers are employed as consultants, agents and representatives of the foreign companies supplying defence equipment to the country;

(c) if so, the names of such officers and companies employing them; and

(d) whether national interests are not affected by their employment with such companies?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A statement is enclosed (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Since 1989, the Government has banned the involvement of agents and middlemen in the purchase of weapons and weapon systems. As per the existing instructions, the seller is required to certify in the contract itself that it has not employed any agents or middlemen. It has been stipulated that in case it is found otherwise, the contract is liable for cancellation. The seller is

also liable to be debarred from entering into any supply contract with the Government of India for a minimum period of five years.

Statement

Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions on Defence Officers

As per existing instructions, Defence Services Officers of the rank of Colonel or equivalent and above, who retire with pension, gratuity or any other benefits in respect of the services rendered by them, are required to obtain prior permission of the Government for accepting any commercial employment within a period of two years from the date of retirement. Before granting permission in such cases, Government have to satisfy themselves that:

(i) Any officer who has had dealings with a particular firm and its sister concern before his retirement shall not be allowed to take up a job with that firm;

(ii) Any officer in an appointment dealing with contracts and procurement shall not be allowed to take up a job with a firm and its sister concerns which has subsisting contract(s) with Ministry of Defence;

(iii) If the proposed appointment calls for marketing or liaison with defence establishments, such an appointment shall not be permitted;

(iv) Appointments with companies/firms which operate in sensitive areas of defence procurement or which have subsidiary firms having contracts with Ministry of Defence shall not be permitted; and

(v) Appointment with foreign Governments or foreign firms shall not be allowed (such restriction shall apply to only foreign companies *per se* and foreign companies investing in India, but not Indian companies entering into foreign collaboration. Apart from this, only those foreign companies shall be excluded, for purposes of commercial employment, which operate in the Defence Sector).